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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0804

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSAPRAC FT SHAFTER

USDAO SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 6 SAIGON 15046

CINCPAC FOR POLAD
USIA FOR IBS/NCA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS
SUBJECT: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT NOV 27-DEC 3, 1974

PART 1--SUMMARY

A. THE ACTIVITY LEVEL THIS WEEK WAS SOMEWHAT HIGHER IN MR-1 AND MR-2, AND APPRECIABLY LOWER IN MR-3 AND MR-4. COUNTRYWIDE THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS WAS 12 PERCENT LOWER. INDEED, IN MR-3 THE FIGHTING WAS AT THE THIRD LOWEST WEEKLY LEVEL OF 1974. BOTH GVN AND COMMUNIST CASUALTIES WERE ALSO LOWER OVERALL, GVN KIA FOLLOWED THE REGIONAL INCIDENT PATTERN, AND WERE SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN THE NORTHERN TWO REGIONS AND LOWER IN THE SOUTHERN PAIR. THE WEATHER LIMITATION OF THE LAST FEW WEEKS ON GROUND AND AIR OPERATIONS IN MR-1 WAS LIFTED. THE DA NANG AIRBASE AMMUNITION STORAGE FACILITY EXPLOSION WAS THE WEEK'S MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT. GVN FORCES WERE SUCCESSFULLY AGGRESSIVE IN THE HOAI NHON DISTRICT OF MR-2'S BINH DINH PROVINCE. AN ARVN LRRP TEAM DESTROYED PART OF THE COMMUNIST PIPELINE IN WESTERN DARLAC. INTELLIGENCE INDICATES A COMMUNIST PICKUP IN DECEMBER OR JANUARY IN BINH DINH AND PHU YEN. THERE WERE NO MAIN FORCE ATTACKS IN MR-3, BUT APPARENTLY CONSIDERABLE COMMUNIST RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITY. INTELLIGENCE INDICATIONS THERE ALSO POINT TO WIDESPREAD NVA/VC LARGE UNIT ATTACKS IN MR-3 IN THE NEAR FUTURE, WHILE SMALLER UNITS CONDUCT HARRASSING OPERATIONS AROUND SAIGON. ACTION IN THE DELTA DROPPED AGAIN THIS WEEK, WITH THE GREATEST ACTIVITY OCCURRING IN USUALLY QUIET AREAS. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY REMARKABLE IN THE CENTRAL DELTA. CONSIDERABLE COMMUNIST PRESSURE CONTINUED ON THE THAP MUOI CANAL IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE, BUT THE WATERWAY WAS OPEN FOR USE AT THE END OF THE PERIOD.

B. ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS WAS HIGHER THIS WEEK IN MR-1, THERE WAS NO ESPECIALLY SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING IN ANY OF THE FIVE PROVINCES. THE MOST STRIKING EVENT WAS THE DA NANG AIRBASE EXPLOSION, WHICH INVOLVED EXTENSIVE LOSS OF AMMUNITION AND CASUALTIES. NVA/ FORCES ARE STILL MANAGING TO COUNTER THE 1ST
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ARVN DIVISION EFFORT TO RETAKE MO TAU MOUNTAIN. THE ARVN 6TH INFANTRY REGIMENT IN QUANG NGAI WAS THE SUBJECT OF COMMUNIST ATTACK ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THE LAST FEW DAYS IN NOVEMBER.

C. BINH DINH WAS AGAIN THE SCENE OF MOST MR-2 INCIDENTS, WITH GVN FORCES SUCCESSFULLY TAKING THE INITIATIVE IN SEVERAL ENGAGEMENTS IN THE HOAI NHON AREA. ACCORDING TO A RALLIER, COMMUNIST FORCES IN BINH DINH WILL BEGIN SMALL UNIT ATTACKS THE MIDDLE OF THIS MONTH, TO

CULMINATE IN A LARGE-SCALE PUSH THE LATTER PART OF JANUARY OR THE FIRST HALF OF FEBRUARY. VC ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE IN PHU YEN THIS MONTH OR NEXT ACCORDING TO INTELLIGENCE REPORTS. WHILE KONTUM WAS CALM, THE FIGHTING WAS UP MARKEDLY IN PELIKU WEST OF AND AROUND THANH AN.

D. THERE WAS A REGION-WIDE LULL IN MR-3, WITH NVA/VC ACTIVITY MAINLY INVOLVING SMALL-SCALE INCIDENTS. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE EVIDENCE THAT COMMUNIST FORCES WERE ENGAGED IN EXTENSIVE RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITY, WHICH COMPLEMENTS THE INTELLIGENCE REPORTS POINTING TO FAIRLY HEAVY FIGHTING IN MR-3 SOON. ALTHOUGH BINH DUONG WAS AGAIN THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE, IT FOLLOWED THE REGION PATTERN WITH MOST INCIDENTS BEING SMALL SCALE.

E. OVERALL THE WEEK'S ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA WAS MODERATE. THE MAIN ACTION IN THE NORTHERN DELTA WAS IN THE EASTERN DISTRICTS OF DINH TUONG. ACTIVITY IN THE REST OF THAT PROVINCE WAS SHARPLY LOWER. THE USUALLY PEACEFUL GO CONG PROVINCE WAS THE SCENE OF A THREE-COMPANY VC ATTACK AGAINST TWO RF BATTALIONS. THERE A NUMBER OF COMMUNIST ATTACKS ALONG THE THAP MUOI CANAL, BUT IT WAS REOPENED DURING THE COURSE OF THE WEEK. FIGHTING WAS ESSENTIALLY AT A LOW LEVEL IN THE CENTRAL DELTA. THE ACTION IN BA XUYEN IN THE SOUTH WAS CENTERED IN THE EASTERN AREA. SECTOR EXPECTS AN ATTACK ON VINH CHAU DISTRICT TOWN IN BAC LIEU LATER THIS MONTH.

PART II--ICCS

BOTH IRANIAN AMB SADRY AND HUNGARIAN AMB LORINCZ-NAGY ARE CONCLUDING THEIR TOURS OF DUTY IN THE ICCS AND DEPARTING SAIGON IN DECEMBER. THE DEPARTURE OF SADRR WILL REDUCE AT LEAST TEMPORARILY THE CONSTRUCTIVE IRANIAN ROLE IN THE COMSSION. THE HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN NOTABLE PRIMARILY FOR MAINTAINING A PARTICULARLY HARD COMMUNIST LINE ON BOTH SUBSTANTIVE AND CONFIDENTIAL

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ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMISSION.

PART III--FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS

THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED INTO ITS TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK.

PART IV--COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

HANOI'S FOREIGN MINISTRY CHARGED IN A NOV 29 STATEMENT THAT AMERICAN SR-71 AIRCRAFT HAD VIOLATED DRV AIRSPACE ON TWO OCCASIONS THE PRECEDING DAY. THE STATEMENT SAID THAT THE ALLEGED OVERFLIGHTS "BRAZENLY VIOLATED" THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND DEMANDED THAT THE US "PUT AN IMMEDIATE END TO ITS AIR RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITIES".

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 6 SAIGON 15046

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

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PART V--MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

I CORPS HQS BRIEFED 192 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS THIS WEEK, AN INCREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 145. FIGHTING HAS CONTINUED AT A MODERATE LEVEL IN THUA THIEN (P), QUANG NAM (P), AND QUANG NGAI (P). QUANG TRI (P) HAS REMAINED QUIET. IN QUANG TIN (P) THEREKAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY. GVN CASUALTIES: 78 KIA; 361 WIA; 4 MIA. NVA/VC LOSSES WERE: 91 KIA; 9 CAPTURED; AND 5 RETURNEES. VNAF FLEW 187 COMBAT SORTIES, A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 12. THE RESTRICTION ON GROUND AND AIR OPERATIONS HAS BEEN LIFTED AS A RESULT OF IMPROVED WEATHER. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS WERE EXPLOSION AT THE AMMO STORAGE FACILITY AT DANANG AIR BASE, WHICH CAUSED CONSIDERABLE CASUALTIES AND AMMO LOSSES, AND THE QUANG NGAI VC FIGHTING AGAINST THE ARVN 6TH INF REGT IN BINH SON (D). THE RAILROAD WAS MINED IN PHU LOC (D) AND A QL-1 HIGHWAY CULVERT WAS MINED IN THE SAME DISTRICT. PHU BAI AIRBASE AND VICINITY HAS RECEIVED NVA/VC SHELLINGS. THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF DINH BINH (H), QUANG NGAI (P) WAS ASSASSINATED BY THE VC.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY IN QUANG TRI (P). IN THUA THIEN (P) MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE VICINITY OF MO TAU AND BONG MOUNTAINS CONTINUES AT A MODERATE LEVEL. THE 1STR ARVN DIV'S ATTEMPTS TO RECOVER MO TAU MOUNTAIN SOUTHWEST OF HUE CONTINUES, WITH THE NVA/VC COUNTERING THESE ATTEMPTS. ON NOV 29, 30 AND DEC 1, 2, 3 PHU BAI AIRBASE AND VICINITY RECEIVED ARTILLERY AND ROCKET FIRE; NEGATIVE RESULTS WERE REPORTED. ON NOV 29, A QL-1 HIGHWAY CULVERT IN PHU LOC (D), WAS SABOTAGED BY THE VC. REPAIRS WERE COMPLETED BY 1500 HOURS THE FOLLOWING DAY. ON NOV 30 THE RAILROAD IN PHU LOC (D) WAS MINED CAUSING DAMAGE TO A PORTION OF THE RAILROAD TRACK AND TIES. ON NOV 27, A CIVILIAN WAS WOUNDED BY VC SNIPER FIRE SOUTH OF CAU TRUOI BRIDGE, PHU LOC (D), THUA THIEN. ON DEC 1, THE VC FIRED ONE 122MM ROCKET INTO A POPULATED AREA OF AP PHU BAI (V), HUONG THUY (D) KILLING ONE

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CIVILIAN.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WERE TWO NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS, THE EXPLOSION AT THE AMMUNITION STORAGE IN THE DANANG AIRBASE AND THE ATTACK AGAINST THE ARVN 6TH INF REGT IN QUANG NGAI. A DECREASE OF ACTIVITIES ALONG THE AIRBORNE CONTACT LINE WAS REPORTED.

ON NOV 29, EXPLOSIONS OCCURRED IN THE AMMUNITION STORAGE AREA, DANANG AIRBASE, INJURING AN ESTIMATED 107 PERSONS AND CAUSING CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE. CAUSE OF EXPLOSIONS STILL UNKNOWN. ON NOV 27, A PASSENGER BUS ENROUTE FROM DUC DUC (D) TO DANANG (C) ACTIVATED A VC/NVA MINE, 1 KM SOUTH OF DAI LOC (P) RESULTING IN THREE WOUNDED, TWO CIVILIANS AND ONE SOLDIER. THE BUS WAS 50 PER CENT DAMAGED. ON NOV 28, VC ATTEMPTED TO DESTROY A GUARDED CULVERT ON HIGHWAY ONE SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, APPROX 3 KM NE OF THE NAM O BRIDGE OUTSIDE OF DANANG (C). THE CULVERT WAS ONLY 30 PER CENT DAMAGED AND TRAFFIC WAS NOT INTERRUPTED.

ON NOV 28 ONE A-37 AIRCRAFT WHILE FLYING A CLOSE SUPPORT MISSION FOR AN AIRBORNE UNIT IN THE VICINITY OF HILL 52, SW DAI LOC (D), WAS SHOT DOWN BY NVA AA FIRE: THE PILOT WAS KILLED AND THE AIRCRAFT WAS DESTROYED. ON NOV 30, ONE A-37 AIRCRAFT WHILE FLYING A CLOSE SUPPORT MISSION TO THE AIRBORNE DIV IN PHU LOC (D) RECEIVED NVA GROUND FIRE; THE AIRCRAFT WAS DAMAGED SLIGHTLY. THE PILOT WAS UNINJURED AND LANDED THE AIRCRAFT AT DANANG AIRBASE SAFELY.

QUANG TIN (P) HAS REMAINED QUIET WITH ONLY A FEW SCATTERED ABF'S AND GROUND CONTACTS.

IN QUANG NGAI ON NOV 27, THE VC/NVA FIRED ONE B40 ROUND INTO A CIVILIAN HOME; DAMAGING THE HOME 70 PER CENT AND KILLING SEVERAL HEAD OF LIVESTOCK.

ON NOV 28, THE VC/NVA FIRED 2 ABF'S INTO A POPULATED AREA NEAR BINH LIEN BASE WOUNDING TWO CIVILIANS AND ONE SOLDIER; TWO HOUSES WERE DESTROYED. ON NOV 29, THE VC/NVA SHELLLED MO DUC SUB-SECTOR WITH MORTAR, RESULTING IN 3 CIVILIANS WOUNDED. ON DEC 1, A VC MINE WAS ACTIVATED BY A FARMER CAUSING SEVEN CIVILIANS TO BE WOUNDED. ON DEC 1, THE VC ASSASSINATED THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF DONG BINH HAMLET, NW BINH SON (D).

ON NOV 28, THE ARVN 1ST BN, 6TH REGT, WAS SUBJECTED TO GROUND ATTACKS 11 KM NE BINH SON (T), QUANG NGAI (P). GVN FORCES SUFFERED 17 WIA. ON NOV 29, ELEMENTS OF THE 1ST BN, 6TH REGT AGAIN MADE CONTACT WITH AN UNIDENTIFIED FORCE; HOWEVER, THERE WERE NO CONFIDENTIAL

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GVN CASUALTIES REPORTED. THE 2ND BN, 6 REGT ON THE SAME DAY RECEIVED A VC MORTAR ATTACK RESULTING IN 10 WIA. OTHER ELEMENTS OF 2ND BN, 6 REGT HAD GROUND CONTACTS AND VC MINING INCIDENTS, RESULTING IN 3 GVN KIA, AND 5 WIA.

4. ICCS:

THERE WERE NO ICCS OBSERVATIONS IN ICCS REGION I DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD# IN ICCS REGION II, FOUR OBSERVATIONS WERE CON-

DUCTED. ON NOV 29TH INDONESIANS FROM THE CHU LAI TEAM SITE OBSERVED THE SITES OF THREE SHELLINGS OF CIVILIAN POPULATED AREAS IN SON TINH, BINH SON, AND MO DUC DISTRICTS OF QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. ALSO ON THE 29TH, INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS FROM THE TAM KY TEAM SITE CONDUCTED AN OBSERVATION OF A PF SUPPLY TRUCK MINING INCIDENT IN TAM KY DISTRICT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 6 SAIGON 15046

CINCPAC FOR POLAD
USIA FOR IBS/NCA

PART VI--MR-2

1. SUMMARY: MILITARY ACTIVITY ROSE SOMEWHAT THIS WEEK. IN BINH DINH, AGAIN THE MOST MILITARILY ACTIVE PROVINCE IN MR-2, COMMUNIST INITIATED INCIDENTS DECREASED WHILE GVN OPERATIONS INCREASED. MOST CLASHES OCCURRED IN HOAI NHON DISTRICT. RECENT INTELLIGENCE AND RALLIER REPORTS ANTICIPATE AN UPSURGE IN COMMUNIST MILITARY PRESSURE IN BINH DINH AND PHU YEN IN DECEMBER OR JANUARY. IN PLEIKU, MILITARY ACTION PICKED UP, LARGELY IN THE AREA AROUND THANH AN TO THE WEST OF PLEIKU CITY. KONTUM WAS CALM, ALTHOUGH GVN ARTILLERY EXPENDITURES MORE THAN DOUBLED. IN WESTERN DARLAC A LRRP TEAM OF THE ARVN 23RD DIV DESTROYED A PORTION OF THE COMMUNIST PIPELINE. MR-2 HQS REPORTS THAT THE COMMUNISTS INITIATED 64 INCIDENTS, AS COMPARED WITH 57 LAST WEEK; 40 OF THIS WEEK'S INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE IN BINH DINH. COMMUNIST KIA ROSE TO 181 FROM 177 LAST WEEK, WHILE COMMUNIST WEAPONS LOSSES DECREASED TO 68 FROM 69 LAST WEEK. GVN LOSSES WERE 55 KIA, 145 WIA, AND 25 WEAPONS LOST, AS AGAINST 38 KIA, 106 WIA, AND 26 WEAPONS LOST LAST WEEK. ARTILLERY EXPENDITURES INCREASED TO 15,002 ROUNDS, UP FROM 11,410 LAST WEEK. THE USE OF TAC AIR AND AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE ASSETS ROSE TO 137 AND 188 SORTIES, UP FROM 52 AND 152 THE PRECEDING WEEK. HELICOPTER SORTIES FLOWN INCREASED TO 893 FROM 760 THE PREVIOUS WEEK.

2. BINH DINH: THE INTENSITY OF FIGHTING LEVELED OFF THIS WEEK, WITH FEWER COMMUNIST INITIATED INCIDENTS BUT INCREASED GVN OPERATIONS. THE CENTER OF ACTIVITY WAS AGAIN HOAI NHON. IN ENGAGEMENTS WEST OF BONG SON CITY ON NOV 26 AND DEC 2, THE 41ST ARVN REGT KILLED 21 AND 27 COMMUNISTS, RESPECTIVELY. AND, ON DEC 1, 8 KM EAST OF BONH SON CITY, A PF PLATOON MADE A SURPRISE ATTACK ON A COMMUNIST POSITION, KILLING 16 COMMUNIST SOLDIERS. NVA AND VC UNITS CONTINUED THEIR INDIRECT FIRE AND GROUND ATTACKS AGAINST POPULATION CENTERS AND TROOP POSITIONS IN SCATTERED AREAS OF BINH DINH'S NORTHEASTERN DISTRICTS. ARVN TROOP REDEPLOYMENTS CONTINUED, WITH THE 40TH REGT NOW LOCATED

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IN ITS PARENT 22ND DIV'S REAR BASE AREA AT AN SON IN TUY PHUOC DISTRICT. A RALLIER REPORTS THAT COMMUNIST UNITS IN BINH DINH WILL UNDERGO TWO WEEKS OF MOTIVATIONAL TRAINING PRIOR TO THE LAUNCHING OF PLATOON-SIZED ATTACKS IN MID-DECEMBER. ACCORDING TO THE RALLIER, LARGE SCALE ATTACKS WILL OCCUR SOMETIME BETWEEN MID-JANUARY AND MID-FEBRUARY.

3. PLEIKU/KONTUM: MILITARY ACTIVITY ROSE SHARPLY IN PLEIKU THIS WEEK. IN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTACT OF THE WEEK, COMMUNISTS TROOPS LAUNCHED A GROUND ASSAULT ON THE 3RD BN OF THE 53RD REGT 10 KM WEST OF THANH AN; THE 3RD BN REPELLED THE ATTACK, REPORTEDLY KILLING 65 COMMUNISTS WHILE LOSING 4 KIA, 20 WIA AND OTHERS MIA. MOST OTHER ENGAGEMENTS ALSO OCCURRED IN THE THANH AN AREA. ON DEC 1, THE COMMUNIST GUNNERS LAUNCHED NINE 122-MM ROCKETS AT PLEIKU AIRBASE, BUT NO DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED. KONTUM WAS CALM. ARTILLERY FIRE FROM RANGER AND TERRITORIAL UNITS MORE THAN DOUBLED, HOWEVER, AS THE GVN ATTEMPTED TO HARASS THE 28TH NVA REGT (ZA 083803) AND TO DISRUPT NVA HIGHWAY 715 (VIC AR 033784). MR -2 HQS REPORTS THAT HIGHWAY 715 HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO WITHIN 10 KM OF SUOI DOI, THROUGH WHICH QL-19 PASSES. KONTUM IS NOW DEFENDED BY THE 4TH, 6TH, 22ND, AND 23RD RANGER GROUPS, WITH THE 44TH REGT OF THE 23RD DIV IN RESERVE. CONTRARY TO EARLIER REPORTS, THE 24TH RANGER GROUP IS NOT IN KONTUM.

4. OTHER: FIGHTING PICKED UP SOMEWHAT IN PHU YEN, WITH 18 INCIDENTS AND 19 COMMUNIST KIA REPORTED, AS COMPARED WITH 7 INCIDENTS AND 10 COMMUNISTS KIA LAST WEEK. ACCORDING TO RECENT INTELLIGENCE, VC MILITARY INITIATIVES WILL INCREASE IN DECEMBER OR JANUARY. ON NOV 29, A LRRP TEAM OF THE ARVN 23RD DIV DESTROYED A PORTION OF THE COMMUNIST PIPELINE IN WESTERN DARLAC. REPORTEDLY, THE PIPELINE WAS EMPTY. A LATE REPORT FROM DARLAC INDICATES THAT THE ATTACK AGAINST PHI DI JA AND BUON ROCAI HAMLETS (REPORTED IN THE LAST WEEKLY) RESULTED IN THE INITIAL KIDNAPPING OF 626 PERSONS, OF WHOM ALL BUT ABOUT 200 HAVE NOW RETURNED. PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES INDICATE THAT IT MAY TAKE 18 TO 24 MONTHS, AT A COST OF OVER ONE BILLION PIASTERS, TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE TO THE DA NHIM POWER PLANT PENSTOCKS IN NINH THUAN CAUSED BY VC SABOTEURS ON NOV 13. HOWEVER, THE FIVE ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE TOWERS ALONG QL-1 IN NINH THUAN, WHICH WERE DESTROYED BY VC SABOTEURS ON NOV 23-24, HAVE BEEN REPAIRED.

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5. ICCS: THE PROVINCIAL HQS SENT TWO CEASEFIRE VIOLATION COMPLAINTS TO THE ICCS TEAM SITE IN LAM DONG. THE ICCS DELEGATES HAVE NOT YET ACTED ON THE COMPLAINTS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 OF 6 SAIGON 15046

CINCPAC FOR POLAD
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PART VII--MR-3

1. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR3 WAS AT THE THIRD LOWEST WEEKLY LEVEL OF 1974. WITH A TOTAL ABSENCE OF MAIN FORCE ATTACKS, NVA/VC ACTIONS CONSISTED OF SAPPER AND LOCAL FORCE ATTACKS MAINLY AGAINST OUTPOSTS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, BRIDGES, AND ROADS. THERE WERE STRONG INDICATIONS OF INTENSIVE COMMUNIST RECON MISSIONS. NVA PRISONERS AND DOCUMENTS CAPTURED WHEN ALERT RF TROOPS INTERCEPTED 33RD NVA REGT FORCES IN LONG KHANH AND 119TH SAPPER REGIMENT FORCES IN SOUTHERN BINH DUONG CONFIRMED OTHER INTELLIGENCE INDICATIONS OF IMPENDING HEAVY NVA/VC MAIN FORCE ATTACKS ON A WIDE FRONT IN MR3 TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY CONCENTRATED SAPPER AND LOCAL FORCE ACTIVITY IN THE PROVINCES SURROUNDING SAIGON.

2. A REGION-WIDE LULL IN MILITARY ACTIVITY DROPPED THIS WEEK'S TOTAL INCIDENTS TO 118 COMPARED WITH 171 LAST PERIOD. MR3 HQS REPORTED 32 GROUND CONTACTS (45 LAST WEEK), 27 ATTACKS BY FIRE (73 LAST WEEK), AND FOUR COMBINED GROUND AND ABFS. MINING INCIDENTS INCREASED TO 26 FROM 15 LAST WEEK AND THERE WERE 29 OTHER MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS. BINH DUONG REPORTED ONLY 38 INCIDENTS COMPARED WITH 78 LAST WEEK. HAU NGHIA HAD 14 (28 LAST WEEK) WHILE BIEN HOA STOOD AT 13 (NINE LAST WEEK).

3. THE COMMUNISTS FIRED ONLY 498 ARTILLERY AND MORTAR ROUNDS, DROPPING FROM 870 LAST WEEK. ARVN EXPENDITURES ALSO DECREASED TO 10,745 FROM LAST WEEK'S 18,542. VNAF FLEW 113 FIXED-WING SORTIES AND 152 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP MISSIONS.

4. GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 24 KIA, 116 WIA, INCLUDING FIVE CIVILIANS, AND ONE MIA, WHILE NVA/VC LOSSES WERE 41 KIA, SIX CAPTURED, AND FOUR RALLIERS. ADDITIONALLY, VNAF REPORTED 116 NVA/VC KILLED BY AIR.

5. MILITARY ACTIVITY DROPPED SUBSTANTIALY IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE WITH INCIDENTS LIMITED TO MINOR GROUND CONTACTS, ATTACKS
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BY FIRE, AND SMALL ARMS HARASSMENT. UNITS OF THE 18TH AND 25TH DIVISIONS CONTINUED THEIR SEARCH AND CLEAR OPERATIONS NORTH OF PHU THU OUTPOST IN THE IRON TRIANGLE AND NORTHWEST OF PHU HOA DONG VILLAGE WITH ONLY LIMITED RESISTANCE. ON NOV 26, ELEMENTS OF THE 25TH ARVN DIV MADE CONTACT WITH A PLATOON SIZE COMMUNIST FORCE SW OF BEN CAT WHICH RESULTED IN SIX NVA/VC KILLED AND TEN BUNKERS DESTROYED. ON DECEMBER 1, A B40 ROCKET FIRED BY NVA/VC FORCES HIT AND SLIGHTLY DAMAGED A BULLDOZER CLEARING ROUTE 14 IN THE IRON TRIANGLE.

6. ACTIVITY IN HAU NGHIA PROVINCE CONTINUED IN THE FORM OF SMALL SIZED GROUND CONTACTS AND ATTACKS BY FIRE. DURING THE MID-MORNING HOURS OF NOVEMBER 26, NVA/VC FORCES SHELLLED SUOI CAO OUTPOST ON THE HAU NGHIA/TAY NINH BORDER WITH 85 ROUNDS OF 82MM AND 61MM MORTAR. CU CHI SUBSECTOR WAS SHELLLED WITH SIX ROUNDS OF 61MM MORTAR ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 26 WITH NO CASUALTIES REPORTED.

7. IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE COMMUNIST FORCES CONTINUED THEIR CONCENTRATION OF ACTIVITY ALONG ROUTES 20 (TO DALAT) AND 333 IN THE EAST NEAR GIA RAY RESETTLEMENT SITE. ON NOVEMBER 27, TERRITORIAL FORCES CLEARING THE ROAD ALONG ROUTE 20 FIVE KMS NORTHEAST OF DINH QUAN DISTRICT, RECEIVED COMMUNIST SMALL ARMS FIRE RESULTING IN ONE POPULAR FORCE SOLDIER WOUNDED. ON NOVEMBER 28 A TERRITORIAL FORCE UNIT WOUNDED AND CAPTURED A BATTALION COMMANDER FROM THE 33RD NVA REGT DURING A CONTACT ON ROUTE 333. INTERROGATION AND DOCUMENTS WHICH HE CARRIED DISCLOSED THE NEARBY LOCATION OF ALL THREE BATTALIONS OF THE 33RD AND PLANS FOR A SIZEABLE OPERATION IN THE AREA.

8. ACTIVITY IN BIEN HOA PROVINCE HAS CENTERED IN THE AREA NORTH AND WEST OF TAN UYEN DISTRICT AND IN NHON TRACH IN THE SOUTHWESTERN PORTION OF BIEN HOA PROVINCE. ON NOVEMBER 28 COMMUNIST FORCES SHELLLED AN 18TH DIV ELEMENT WITH 20 ROUNDS OF 61MM MORTAR, 13 KMS EAST OF CONG THANH DISTRICT, RESULTING IN FIVE SOLDIERS WOUNDED. ON NOVEMBER 29 COMMUNIST SAPPERS THREW GRENADES AND FIRED A B40 ROUND AT A TERRITORIAL FORCE OUTPOST ELEMENT, NINE KMS EAST OF TAN UYEN DISTRICT, WOUNDING SIX TERRITORIAL FORCE SOLDIERS. THERE WERE THREE SEPARATE MINING INCIDENTS IN TAN UYEN DISTRICT LEAVING ONE ARVN SOLDIER DEAD AND SIX WOUNDED.

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9. THERE WERE FIVE INCIDENTS INVOLVING AIRCRAFT IN MR3 THIS REPORTING PERIOD, TWO ON NOVEMBER 26. A HELICOPTER FLYING SUPPORT FOR THE 81ST AIRBORNE RANGER GROUP RECEIVED GROUND FIRE IN NORTHERN BIEN HOA PROVINCE RESULTING IN ONE CREW MEMBER SLIGHTLY WOUNDED. A HELICOPTER FLYING SUPPORT FOR PHUOC TUY SECTOR RECEIVED HEAVY

GROUND FIRE, DAMAGING THE HELICOPTER AND WOUNDING THE CREW CHIEF.
ON NOVEMBER 28 AN AIR CAMBODGE DC-4 AIRCRAFT CRASHED IN BINH LONG
PROVINCE KILLING ALL FIVE CREW MEMBERS, APPARENTLY AFTER BEING
HIT BY NVA AA FIRE. ON NOVEMBER 30, A HELICOPTER FLYING SUPPORT
IN TAY NINH PROVINCE RECEIVED GROUND FIRE, DAMAGING THE HELI-
COPTER WITH NO CASUALTIES, AND A JGS AC-47 WAS REPORTED MISSING,
PRESUMABLY DOWN IN NORTHWESTERN TAY NINH PROVINCE.

10. ICCS: THERE WERE NO ICCS OBSERVATIONS REPORTED THIS WEEK
IN ICCS REGION V.

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 DPW-01 SAM-01 IO-10 OMB-01 SR-02

ORM-01 ACDA-05 NIC-01 /092 W
----- 075382

R 041000Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0808

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSAPRAC FT SHAFTER

USDAO SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 5 OF 6 SAIGON 15046

CINCPAC FOR POLAD
USIA FOR IBS/NCA

PART VIII--MR-4

1. MILITARY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL SECURITY: DELTA FIGHTING CONTINUED TO DECLINE, WITH THE NORMALLY ACTIVE PROVINCES OF THE CENTRAL DELTA PARTICULARLY QUIET. OF GREATEST SIGNIFICANCE WAS CONTINUED ACTIVITY IN EASTERN DINH TUONG PROVINCE WHICH THIS WEEK SPILLED OVER INTO GO CONG PROVINCE. BOTH AREAS HAD BEEN VERY QUIET SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. THE OTHER AREA OF CONCENTRATED ACTIVITY WAS THE THAP MUOI CANAL IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE, WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER HEAVY VC/NVA PRESSURE SINCE MID-NOVEMBER, DELTA-WIDE, CORPS REPORTS 208 VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS (293 LAST WEEK), CONSISTING OF 13 GROUND ATTACKS (43), 122 ABF'S (170), 43 HARASSMENTS (70), 9 SABOTAGE (11) AND 21 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (5). GVN LOSSES DROPPED TO 96 KIA (156), 405 WIA (578), 39 MIA (43), AND 2 CREW-SERVED (6) AND 118 INDIVIDUAL (167) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 371 VC/NVA KILLED (599), 41 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (74), AND 6 CREW-SERVED (10) AND 120 INDIVIDUAL (246) WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B) NORTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY, BUT FIGHTING IN THE EASTERN DISTRICTS, WHICH BEGAN ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO, CONTINUED. THE ONLY TWO DINH TUONG OB'S OVERRUN WERE BOTH NW OF CHAU THANH DISTRICT TOWN. GVN SOURCES BELIEVE VC/NVA ARE TYRING TO DEMONSTRATE PRESENCE THROUGHOUT PROVINCE. INCIDENTS ON HIGHWAY 4 INCLUDED SNIPING AT A MILITARY TRUCK IN EASTERN SAM GIANG (D) AT 1000 HOURS; FIRING OF B-40 ROUNDS AT A MILITARY VEHICLE AT NIGHT IN WESTERN SAM GIANG; AND A MORTARING (4 ROUNDS 61MM) WHICH HIT A MILITARY VEHICLE ON THE HIGHWAY IN CAI LAY (D) AT 1415 HOURS. FIGHTING SPILLED OVER INTO PEACEFUL GO CONG PROVINCE WHERE THREE VC COMPANIES ATTACKED POSITIONS OF TWO RF BATTALIONS

IN SW HOA DONG (D) INFLECTING 10 RF KIA, 3 MIA, AND 13 WIA.
ACTIVITY IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE CONTINUED TO BE CENTERED ON
THE THAP MUOI CANAL IN CAO LANH (D). THREE OB'S THERE CAME
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UNDER GROUND ATTACKS AND HEAVY ABF'S AND ONE WAS OVERRUN
(RETAKEN THE NEXT DAY). DESPITE THIS PRESSURE, THE CANAL WAS
REOPENED DURING THE WEEK, AND THE FIRST MILITARY RESUPPLY
CONVOY TO MY AN (D) SINCE MID-NOVEMBER WAS SCHEDULED FOR
DECEMBER 3. CHAU DOC PROVINCE WAS QUIET, BUT 7 ABF'S IN
AN PHU (D) WOUNDED 18 CIVILIANS.

(C) CENTRAL DELTA: KIEN HOA PROVINCE REPORTS ONLY 7 VC/NVA-
INITIATED INCIDENTS, ALL HARASSMENTS AGAINST GVN OB'S. ONE
RF SECURITY OPERATION RESULTED IN THREE CONTACTS IN SE BINH
DAI (D) WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 15 VC KILLED. VINH LONG AND
VINH BINH PROVINCES WERE BOTH QUIET EXCEPT FOR A TRAITOR-
ASSISTED ATTACK ON A HAMLET OFFICE IN WESTERN CANG LONG (D)
WHICH LEFT 3 RD CADRE AND 2 PSDF KIA. ACTIVITY IN PHONG DINH
PROVINCE CONSISTED MOSTLY OF SMALL UNIT CONTACTS WITH LIGHT
CASUALTIES. THE PHONG DIEN SUBSECTOR S-5 WAS REPORTEDLY
KIDNAPPED, AND A HAMLET CHIEF AND ANOTHER CIVILIAN WERE
ASSASSINATED IN NORTHERN PHUNG HIEP (D). IN KIEN GIANG
PROVINCE, AN OB IN THE EXTREME SOUTH OF HIEU LE (D) WAS
ABANDONED, FURTHER REDUCING THE MINIMAL GVN PRESENCE IN
THAT AREA. FIGHTING CONTINUED AT A LOW LEVEL IN THE REST
OF THE PROVINCE.

(D) SOUTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE WAS
CONCENTRATED IN THE EASTERN DISTRICTS, WITH THE MOST
SIGNIFICANT CONTACT OCCURRING IN THE ISLAND PORTION OF THE
PROVINCE. PF OPERATING IN ONE OF THE FEW GVN- CONTROLLED
AREAS ON THE ISLAND LOST 9 KILLED IN A CONTACT WITH AN
UNKNOWN VC UNIT. IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE, AIR-SUPPORTED RF
OPERATIONS IN NW VINH CHAU (D) RESULTED IN 17 VC OF THE
BAC LIEU I BATTALION KILLED. SECTOR BELIVES THE BAC LIEU I
IS PLANNING AN ATTACK ON VINH CHAU DISTRICT TOWN LATER THIS
MONTH. IN CHUONG THIEN (D), VC INFILTRATED THE MARKET OF
THE MOST SECURE VILLAGE IN KIEN THIEN (D). IN A BRIEF
CONTACT, ONE VC WAS KILLED AND ONE CAPTURED. ANOTHER
CONTACT OCCURRED ABOUT 500 METERS FROM THE HUNG LONG
DISTRICT OFFICE IN WHICH TWO CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED. IN
AN XUYEN PROVINCE, AN RF UNIT REESTABLISHED AN OB 4 KM WSW
OF DAM DOI DISTRICT TOWN, THE ONLY OB IN DAM DOI (D) SOUTH
OF THE DISTRICT TOWN.

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 DPW-01 SAM-01 IO-10 OMB-01 SR-02

ORM-01 ACDA-05 NIC-01 /092 W
----- 075467

R 041000Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0809

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSAPRAC FT SHAFTER

USDAO SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 6 OF 6 SAIGON 15046

CINCPAC FOR POLAD
USIA FOR IBS/NCA

2. VC/NVA ACTIVITIES: (A) CAPTURED DOCUMENTS CONTAIN
VC/NVA PLAN TO ESTABLISH AN 8TH DIVISION, TO BE COMPOSED
OF EXISTING E-24 AND Z-18 REGIMENTS, 310 ARTY BATTALION, 283
SAPPER BATTALION, AND D14 AA BATTALION.

(B) A RECENT RALLIER IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE CLAIMS TO HAVE
BEEN PART OF A 120-MAN INFILTRATION GROUP, 30 OF WHOM HAD
ALREADY ENTERED KIEN HOA THROUGH SAM GIANG (D), DINH TUONG (P).
HE SAYS HIS GROUP WAS COMPOSED OF POW'S RELEASED IN THE
PRISONER EXCHANGE, AND 2/3 OF THEM WERE NATIVES OF KIEN HOA.

3. ICCS AFFAIRS: REGION VI ICCS RECEIVED 18 LETTERS OF
COMPLAINT BUT MADE NO INSPECTIONS OR "OBSERVATIONS." REGION VII
RECEIVED 7 COMPLAINTS CONCERNING 12 INCIDENTS AND CONDUCTED
NO INSPECTIONS OR "OBSERVATIONS"
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT ZONES, COMBAT CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON15046
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740351-0696
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741261/aaaabzyk.tel
Line Count: 892
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT NOV 27-DEC 3, 1974 PART 1--SUMMARY
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005